SPEECH

BY THE HONOURABLE

KHAN ABDUL QAYUM KHAN,

CHIEF MINISTER, N.-W. F. P.,

INTRODUCING

THE BUDGET ESTIMATES

for the year 1951-52

N.-W. F. PROVINCE,

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PESHAWAR :

1st March, 1951.

In the Name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

1. Sir, I rise with your permission to introduce the Budget of the North-West Frontier Province for the year, 1951-52.

2. Before I deal with the Budget for the year, 1951-52, I consider it necessary for the information of the Hon'ble Members to recount in brief the financial position of the Province for the years 1949-50 and 1950-51.

3. *Accounts, 1949-50.*—The Revised Estimates for 1949-50 anticipated a revenue of Rs. 3,60,22,000 and an expenditure of Rs. 3,83,15,000 with a deficit of Rs. 22,93,000. In fact revenue including subvention of Rs. 1,00,00,000 amounted to Rs. 3,30,60,000 and expenditure to Rs. 3,76,84,000. The decrease of Rs. 29,62,000 in revenue and of Rs. 6,31,000 in expenditure raised the estimated deficit of Rs. 22,93,000 to Rs. 46,24,000 at the end of the year. Reasons for this decrease in revenue and expenditure will be found in the Financial Secretary's Explanatory Memorandum.

4. *Revised Estimates, 1950-51.*—The Budget Estimates, 1950-51, envisaged a revenue of Rs. 4,09,23,000 and an expenditure of Rs. 4,24,80,000 giving a deficit of Rs. 15,57,000. Considering this against the estimated surplus balance of Rs. 6,50,000 it was anticipated that the year would close with a deficit of Rs. 9,07,000. Capital expenditure was estimated at Rs. 2,61,90,000. This amount included expenditure on Electricity Projects, Development of Irrigation and Government Transport Service.

5. The actual position now anticipated is, however, slightly different. The Revised Estimate of revenue is Rs. 4,57,64,000 and of expenditure of Rs. 4,49,79,000 showing a revenue surplus of Rs. 7,85,000 on the year's working. When account is taken of the actual opening balance of minus Rs. 14,10,000 a Revised Estimated balance of minus Rs. 6,25,000 is shown against a minus balance of Rs. 9,07,000 as originally estimated. Reasons for variations in the figures of revenue and expenditure as originally anticipated and as now estimated are given in the Financial Secretary's Explanatory Memorandum.

6. Collections of Ordinary Land Revenue and Additional Land Revenue on Sugar cane during the agricultural year ended 30th September, 1950, were satisfactory, the actuals being Rs. 46,48,000 as against Rs. 48,40,000 for the previous year. The fall of Rs. 1,92,000 was due mainly to fall in the price of agricultural produce and remission of 33⅓ per cent. in the Additional Land Revenue on Sugar cane allowed in the beginning of 1950-51. Abiana collections were Rs. 28,20,000 as against Rs. 28,33,518 for the previous year. It is the policy of the Provincial Government to give relief

to the poorer section of our Zamindars. It will be recalled that in Districts other than Hazara an increase of 25 per cent. was made in the rates of land revenue from Kharif 1949. In the Hazara District a long drawn out settlement had just then concluded with the resulting increase of about 15 per cent. in the Land Revenue ; the Provincial Government did not increase the Land Revenue by 25 per cent. in Hazara District but only to an extent of about 10 per cent. to bring it on level with the increase in the rest of the Province. This means that the increase in the Land Revenue in Hazara District was much less than in the rest of the Province. It has, therefore, been decided to remit the increase of 25 per cent. in Land Revenue in the rest of the Province and the increase which was made in Hazara District to raise the Land Revenue to 25 per cent. This remission will apply to all those Zamindars who pay a Land Revenue of Rs. 10 or less. Our people will realise that in spite of our difficult financial position the Provincial Government has not hesitated to help the poorer section of the Zamindars.

7. I must here apprise the House of the heavy arrears of Land Revenue and water rates aggregating Rs. 21,00,000 odd which relate to the previous years beginning from 1928-29 and are still recoverable. The Government has decided to make an all-round effort to effect their recovery and with this object in view has already employed a special staff in the Peshawar and Mardan Districts. The question of employment of special staff in other Districts of the Province is also under the consideration of Government.

8. The conversion of an anticipated debit balance of Rs. 15,57,000 into a surplus balance of Rs. 7,85,000 is due mainly to an additional income of Rs. 40,00,000 from the Provincial share of the Central Sales Tax partly counter-balanced by increase in expenditure on new works accounted for under the head "50—Civil Works".

9. Coming to the Budget for the next year, the revenue is estimated at Rs. 4,56,08,000 and expenditure at Rs. 4,62,74,000 showing a revenue deficit of Rs. 6,66,000. Taking into account the estimated opening balance of minus Rs. 6,25,000 there will be a net deficit revenue balance of Rs. 12,91,000 at the end of the year. Capital expenditure during the year includes a provision of Rs. 48,09,000 for the expansion of the Malakand Hydro-Electric Scheme, Rs. 56,39,000 for the Dargai Hydro-Electric Scheme, Rs. 93,45,000 for the Warsak Scheme, Rs. 28,65,000 for Development of Irrigation, Rs. 6,85,000 for construction of roads in the Sugar-cane area, Rs. 5,00 000 for the setting up a Resin and Turpentine Factory at Havelian in the Hazara District, Rs. 22,00,000 for Government Transport Service, a total of Rs. 2,60,43,000. Against this can be set recoveries on account of stock of food-grains and sugar aggregating Rs. 54,54,000. The figure of net capital expenditure shown in the budget is, therefore, Rs. 2,05,89,000.

10. I do not propose to discuss the details of th Budget since these can be seen from the Explanatory Memoranda already in your hands. I must, however, make a reference to certain items to make the over-all position of our finances and some of the figures more readily intelligible.

11. It must be remembered that ever since the formation of Pakistan the expenditure budget of this Province is steadily on the increase. In 1947-48 the expenditure figure was Rs. 3,40,93,000 which has now risen to Rs. 4,49,79,000. To improve the economic conditions of the Province and to raise the standard of living of its people, Government has always been endeavouring to afford all sorts of educational, medical and other facilities. All this requires more and more money but as the field of Provincial Taxation has already become very narrow I have abstained from putting any additional burden on the people.

12. On the 24th of September, 1950, the Provincial Government took over the administration of Upper Tanawal which includes Phulera and the estate of the Nawab of Amb on the Hazara side of the Indus River. With the dawn of freedom in this area it was necessary to give some practical proof of our sympathy with the people of Upper Tanawal. The Provincial Government has posted about six platoons of the Police in this area—a Police Station has been set up at Darband—a first class Magistrate with the necessary staff has also been posted to deal with the disposal of the cases. We have also posted a Doctor at Darband and have opened a 12-bedded hospital to give medical relief to the people of this area. Our Travelling Dispensary has started touring this area. A Middle School was also opened at Darband and we propose to open four or five Primary Schools in other villages in Upper Tanawal. All this expenditure, which is quite considerable, is being met from the Provincial treasury and so far not a pie has been paid by the Nawab of Amb or the people of this area. This will mean a considerable increase in expenditure. To open up this area it is proposed to build a Jeep road from Khaki to Phulera and to carry out repairs to the existing roads in the year, 1951-52.

13. We expect a greater income from the organizational charges on hides and skins and wool to the extent of Rs. 3.00,000 more. The Takhtbai Sugar Mill is putting up a factory for Power Alcohol and rectified spirits. This is expected to yield a sum of Rs. 10,00,000 in the form of Excise Duty. We are also expecting an additional amount of Rs. 20,00,000 from the Provincial share of the Central Government Sales Tax as a result of allocation to Provincial Governments of receipts realised in Karachi. We will thus be left with a very small deficit balance of Rs. 6,66,000 only at the end of the year.

14. As stated by me earlier the Government has decided to give some relief to Land Revenue payers. The House will be glad to know that on the urban side also the Government has decided to relieve petty property holders from the payment of Urban Immovable Property Tax. So far property of the rental value of Rs. 180 per annum or less was exempt from the payment of this Tax but from the next financial year this limit has been raised to Rs. 240 per annum in the case of Peshawar and Abbottabad and to Rs. 204 in the case of other Districts. This is necessary because the rents in Peshawar and Abbottabad are much higher than in other urban areas of the Province.

15. While referring to the question of expenditure, I pointed out in my last Budget Speech how alive I was to the criticism about "wrong emphasis on expenditure", to which Provincial Budgets in the past had been exposed. I admitted that a large percentage of our expenditure had perforce to be earmarked for the Police and for the Civil Administration, leaving only a beggarly amount for the promotion of Agriculture, Industry and the Nation-building activities of the people generally. I apprised the House of the real attempt that had been made for the first time to reverse the old order of things, and held out the assurance that with the help and co-operation of the vast majority of our people and their accredited representatives in this honourable House—to which I am naturally looking forward once again—I shall be able not only to maintain the pace of the existing progress but to quicken it manifold. I am happy to be able to state that this year, too, it has been possible to make a fairer allocation of funds for our Nation-building activities. This becomes particularly significant when it is taken into consideration that there has been no corresponding increase in taxation.

16. *Industry.*—In the industrial field, I am in a position to report further progress. The Premier Sugar Mills went into regular production in December, 1950, after doing a trial run for a couple of weeks in May, during which it crushed about 5,67,855 maunds of cane. It is hoped that it will be producing about 30,000 tons of sugar every season—about 1/8th of the total sugar requirements of West Pakistan. The Frontier Sugar Mills has had a successful year, too, and with the additional machinery which has started to come in, its output is expected to go up at least 50 per cent. It is also setting up a Distillery at a total cost of Rs. 5,00,000 for the production of rectified spirit and power alcohol.

17. While last year 500 acres were put under Virginia cigarette tobacco, this year the area covered will be over 3,000 acres—and 12,000 persons will be employed daily for a period of three to four months. The Pakistan Tobacco Company is setting up a large-scale redrying plant at Akora Khattak, which it is hoped will be handling about 25,000 lbs. of tobacco and, incidentally, giving employment to 2,000 odd persons daily. As against an income of about Rs. 200 per acre from "desi" tobacco, cultivators are now receiving about Rs. 1,000 per acre under the new tobacco. It looks as if the new industry has come to stay.

18. A flour mill and a cold storage plant are under construction in Peshawar, construction work on the woolen mill at Nowshera is about to start, and machinery for setting up another woolen mill at Bannu is on order. Preliminaries for setting up a ten-ton plant for the manufacture of starch have also been finalised.

19. Negotiations are also in progress with interested parties for the erection of a 25,000 spindles cotton textile mill in the Province. With the taking over of control of the Guzara forest and forests in Upper Tanawal territory of the Hazara District, it has become practicable to step up the production of crude resin to about 70,000 maunds per annum. With a view to utilizing this raw material to the best advantage of the Province, and also to

starting such subsidiary industries based on resin and turpentine as the manufacture of sealing wax, boot polishes, soap, varnishes and paints, in order to give the maximum employment possible to the people of Hazara District, it is proposed to set up near Havelian a Resin and Turpentine Factory in Hazara District, and for this purpose a provision of Rs. 5,00,000 has been made in the next year's budget.

20. The Government Fruit Canning Factory, Nasarpur, which in the past had been a monopoly of a few, has recently been given on lease to the Fruit Growers' Association of the Province, so that those who actually produce the fruit will now derive the benefit from it. Already considerable quantities of canned vegetables have been supplied to the Army.

21. Under the Wool Development Scheme, 32 centres were organized, and the work of shearing, grading and marketing of wool started on proper lines.

22. In my last report I mentioned that a Cottage and Small-Scale Industries Development Board had been set up. On the recommendation of the Board, the Provincial Government have set apart a sum of Rs. 15,000 for advance as interest-free loan and another sum of Rs. 5,000 on outright grants to deserving persons engaged in the industry. Provision has been made for a further sum of Rs. 30,000 in the Budget.

23. As the House is aware, there is at present considerable confusion in regard to the weights and measures used in different parts of the Province, and the Government has noted with regret that it is not uncommon that through clever, though dishonest manipulation of these weights and measures, the Zamindar is cheated of his dues. In order to remedy this confusion and to facilitate trade transactions in an honest and straight-forward manner, it has been decided to enforce the Weights and Measures Act, which received the assent of this House sometime back. Provision has accordingly been made in the next year's Budget for the employment of the staff that will be required for enforcing and policing the Act. This same staff will also look after the working of the Trade Employees' Act with a view to safeguarding the interests of persons employed in commercial undertakings. The House will also be glad to note that provision has been made for the grant of 16 stipends of the value of Rs. 15 each for technical education at the Technical Training Centre, Peshawar.

24. *Agriculture.*—During the year the production of tobacco on the Farm at Tarnab was raised to 1,500 lbs. per acre—nearly three times greater than that obtained in India and 30 per cent. higher than that in the U. S. A. and giving the record income for any crop of Rs. 1,750 per acre. Sixteen new hybrids of wheat are under trial yield, as also a hybrid corn. Two new varieties of cane were given out to the cultivators, and a variety of peach known as "Palora" has been selected for canning purposes. 2,292 maunds of wheat seed of the C. 591 variety were produced and distributed at the Seed Farm, at Rakh Mangan, and a new farm started at Pir Sabak. comprising of 500 acres.

25. Under the Insect Pest Control Scheme, 7,61,731 fruit trees and 89,356 nursery plants have been sprayed in 1,517 villages and 5,054 orchards—an achievement on which the Department may justly be proud. Provision has been made in the next year's budget for a sum of Rs. 1,51,957 for the same purpose.

26. *Forests.*—In pursuance of our efforts last year, a Guzara Forest Division in the Hazara District came into being during the year under report, in an honest effort to retrieve the appalling position caused by the indiscriminate destruction of trees in the past, and already there is an appreciable decrease in illicit fellings. In December, 1950 a new Forest Range was sanctioned to control forests in Upper Tanawal. A further 7,190 acres were voluntarily closed. Plantation on the Upper and Lower Swat Canals has been accelerated, and 600 acres in Rakh Band Korai and 400 acres in Rakh Shahkote in the Dera Ismail Khan District will be brought under 'babul' plantation during the year.

27. *Agriculture Development and other schemes.*—As stated in my last year's Speech these Schemes fall under two categories :(1) wholly Provincial; and (ii) those financed either jointly by the Central and Provincial Governments or by the Provincial Government from the loan funds sanctioned by the Central Government. Under the first category the three schemes: Remodelling the Bakkakhel Right and Left channel in Bannu District, Remodelling the Jani Khel channel in Bannu District and Kag Irrigation Scheme in Hazara District have been completed in the current financial year at a cost of Rs. 36,513, Rs. 84,028 and Rs. 9,943, respectively. They are expected to provide irrigation for an additional 5,000 acres. Two more schemes, connecting Barga Nathu and Kam Chashma Irrigation Bannu District and constructing a drainage crossing at R. D. 30700 Paharpur Canal estimated to cost Rs. 59,600 and Rs. 22,200 have also been taken in hand. On completion the first scheme is estimated to bring 1,000 acres of land under Irrigation, while the latter scheme is meant to ensure safety of Kotla village from floods. In the next year's budget a sum of Rs. 84,000 has been provided for three new schemes. viz, (1) Linking Warsak Lift Irrigation Scheme, (ii) Constructing Drainage crossing at R. D. 14000 Paharpur Canal; and (iii) Remodelling Hazarkhani Branch.

28. In the second category Drainage Scheme for water-logged area in Mardan District, Tube Well Irrigation Scheme in Kohat District and Kurram Garhi Irrigation Scheme in Bannu District are in progress from 1949-50. A sum of Rs. 15,39,700 is being spent on them during 1950-51 and a provision of Rs. 39,35,881 has been made for them in the next year's budget. 50 per cent. of the cost of these schemes will be borne by the Centre. It is anticipated that the first two schemes will be completed during, 1951-52, while the third will take another 3 years. On completion of the first two schemes 15,000 acres of water-logged area in Mardan District and 20,000 acres of barren land in Kohat District will be brought under cultivation. The third scheme is anticipated to improve the irrigation of 1,12,000 acres of land already commanded by the Bannu Civil Canals and will also bring further barren land under cultivation.

29. Other Irrigation Schemes financed from the loan account are (i) Kheshki Lift Irrigation Scheme; (ii) Garhi Ismailzai Lift Irrigation Scheme; (iii) Irrigation Tube Well in Qasba Bagram; (iv) Extension of Mamakhel Jadid Canal; and (v) Warsak High Level Canal. These are estimated to cost Rs. 1,20,000; Rs. 81,073, Rs. 1,28,102, Rs. 1,60,018 and Rs. 1,00,00,000, respectively. Schemes No. (ii) and (iv) have since been completed. Scheme No. (iii) will be completed in 1951-52, Scheme No. (i) in 1952-53 while the completion of Scheme No. (v) depends on when the Warsak Hydro-Electric Scheme is approved by the Central Government.

30. *Drinking Water Supply Schemes.*—The major schemes in progress from the last year are (i) Extension of Drinking Water Supply Schemes in Thal area, Kohat District; (ii) Drinking Water Supply Scheme in Bannu District; and (iii) Drinking Water Supply Schemes in Dera Ismail Khan District. These are estimated to cost Rs. 6,59,400, Rs. 4,47,670 and Rs. 5,10,900, respectively. A sum of Rs. 3,68,701 and Rs. 6,52,689 was spent on these during 1949-50 and 1950-51 and a provision of Rs. 5,96,475 is being made for them in the next year's budget. Apart from these a sum of Rs. 1,00,000 was sanctioned for Drinking Water Scheme for dry areas in the South of Hazara in 1950-51. This Scheme is now estimated to cost Rs. 3,00,000 and will be completed in 1951-52. All these Schemes will bring relief to thousands of people in the dry areas of Kohat, Bannu, Dera Ismail Khan and Hazara Districts, who have at present no adequate arrangement for drinking water.

31. With the undertaking of new Development Schemes the Public Works Department has expanded considerably. To give an idea of the expansion to the House I would say that the expenditure budget of the P. W. D. has risen from 1⅓ crores in 1948-49 to approximately Rs. 4 crores now.

32. *Education.*—The Government are pursuing the campaign to banish mass illiteracy with the same vigour and determination with which they started it. The number of Institutions and enrolment rose from 1288 and 114,726 at the time of Partition to 1321 and 131,610 in 1950. Two new schools were raised to high, 15 to full middle and 2 to lower middle standard in 1950-51. School buildings and equipment were in a deplorable condition. In order to put them in proper condition the Government had to spend Rs. 8,68,397 on the repairs and building of new schools and Rs. 73,000 on purchase of equipment during 1950-51. The programme of building new schools, repairing the existing ones and supplying them with proper equipment is still going on and the Government has provided a sum of Rs. 9,04,514 in the next year's budget for this purpose. The next year's budget provides also for the opening of a new Intermediate College at Bannu, the starting of Science Classes in the College at Abbottabad, opening of four new High Schools, 3 for boys and one for girls, raising of the standard of 17 Lower Middle Schools to Middle, of four Primary Schools to Lower Middle, and the opening 20 new Primary Schools, 10 for boys and 10 for girls.

33. The long cherished ambition of having our own University has materialized by the Grace of God. The University has been set up and is now working satisfactorily. For 1950-51 Government's grant to the University is estimated at Rs. 7,30,300 and for 1951-52 Rs. 10,00,000. The University has started with a new Law College, a new Teachers' Training College and M. A. Classes in English, Mathematics and Economics. The selection of the site has been made and plans for the buildings are with the Architect of the Punjab Government. A special P. W. D. Division has been set up to cope with the building programme of the University. The Provincial Government is very anxious that the College for Mechanical and Electrical Engineering should start functioning from the 1st of October, 1951. In view of the inherent difficulties, it cannot be said whether we will be able to start on the date fixed but every effort is being made to achieve this object. The requirements of apparatus for the College and the workshop have been listed and an order will be very shortly placed and every effort made to obtain the necessary material as early as we can. The second object which we wish to achieve is the opening of Post Graduate Classes in Science. Every effort is being made to recruit highly qualified Professors in Pakistan, U. K. and the continent of Europe. The University administration have given a very good account of themselves in completing arrangements for the holding of the examinations which previously used to be conducted by the Punjab University. These examinations are being held in accordance with the approved time-table.

34. The first residential Government College for Women is functioning satisfactorily since last year. There was much difficulty in staffing it properly but this has now been overcome. The Government has also been able to acquire the services of a highly qualified Senior Professor in English for it from England.

35. *Police.*—The expenditure on Police is still the heaviest charge on the revenues of the Province. This includes Rs. 25,92,000 for Additional Police which should have been disbanded but for the conditions outside the Province which might have repercussions on the internal security. A further reduction of 12 platoons was, however, made during the current year resulting in a saving of about 5 lakhs in the annual budget. The strength of the Additional Police which stood at 12000 during the 2nd World War now stands at 2500 men—most of whom are employed on road protection in Southern Districts. The retention of this force has helped the Government greatly in maintaining Law and Order in the Province and I am glad to inform the House that there thas been a further drop in serious crimes. Murders have registered a fall from 813 of 1949 to 711 during 1950, attempted murders have decreased from 1144 of 1949 to 891 in 1950 ; dacoities from 59 to 36 ; robberies from 280 to 164; burglaries from 1218 to 814 and thefts from 1882 to 1502. For the first time in history the Provincial Government have provided all lower ranks of the Police with warm uniforms for the Winter. The pay of the Police has been increased and the warm uniforms have cost the Provincial Exchequer a sum of Rs. 5,38,000.

36. The Anti-Corruption Committee and the staff under it has some further good work to its credit, and I would like to bring it to the notice of the House. During the year, 1950-51, the Committee received 49 fresh complaints of corruption against officials of the various departments, including Electricity, P. W. D. and Jail. Out of this, 15 have since been filed for lack of sufficient evidence, and the remaining are under investigation and the active consideration of the Committee. In addition to these complaints, the Anti-Corruption Police formally investigated 28 cases which involved one Superintendent of Jail, two Executive Engineers, five S. D. Os. and five Overseers of the P. W. D., a Secretary and an Administrator of a Local Body, one Head of Department, one Tahsildar and one Naib Tahsildar. As a result, one Superintendent of Jail has been compulsorily retired, one case has been referred for departmental action, five are pending with the Public Service Commission for advice with regard to the punishment that should be awarded. Twelve enquiries against officers of the Custodian, Medical, Police and Jail Departments are still in hand with the Police. Of the cases pending since last year, three have since been completed; and as a result, one Superintendent of Jail has been dismissed, one Executive Engineer of the P. W. D. and one Extra Assistant Commissioner have been acquitted. A very large number of subordinate employees of the Government in different Departments have been either dealt with departmentally or prosecuted in the course of the year. In the Animal Husbandry Department one Head Assistant was dismissed and two Assistants discharged; in the Forest Department two Forest Guards were discharged; in the Police Department two Head Constables and 6 Foot Constables were dismissed, one Head Constable and one Foot Constable demoted and two Sub-Inspectors and one Foot Constable censured; in the Judicial Department one Process Server was dismissed, one Naib Nazir degraded and the increments of two Translators stopped; in the Public Works Department one Store Keeper, two Store Munshis, one Mistri, one Lorry Driver and one peon were dismissed and one Assistant Engineer, one Sub-Divisional Officer, one Patwari and one Overseer suspended ; in the Medical and Jails Department one Assistant Jailor, one Warder, one Orderly and one Cook were dismissed and one Head Warder and one Warder suspended; in the Government Transport Service eight Drivers and twenty Cleaners were discharged and one Cleaner warned and in the Revenue and Local Self-Government Departments one leave reservist, three Patwaris, one Kanungo were dismissed, two Moharrirs, three Patwaris, one Kanungo, one Wasil Baqi Nawis degraded, one Head Treasury Clerk, two Octroi Moharrirs, one Moharrir, Revenue Department and 3 Peons suspended, while the cases of one Clerk and one Daftri are still under investigation. This was the result of the Anti-Corruption drive in the lower ranks which the Provincial Government initiated in 1950.

37. *Medical and Public Health.*—There has been a considerable increase in the expenditure on both the wings of this Department, namely, Medical and Public Health. The shortage of Compounders which was keenly felt has been more than made up. To get over the acute shortage of doctors we are sending four times the number of students which we used to send for medical degrees. Before Partition the number of such students was 5; during the

year 1950, 17 males and 3 females, in all 20, were sent for training. With a view to attract more Assistant Medical Officers the scales of their pay have been considerably increased. Extra technical staff such as Laboratory Assistants, Radiographers, Dispensers, T. B. Assistants, etc., sanctioned for the Tahsil and District Headquarters Hospitals have been provided in almost all the hospitals in this Province. The Dadar Sanatorium has been equipped with two Electric Generators, one X-Ray Plant and radio sets for the patients. More equipment has been received for the Provincial Laboratory, Peshawar. We are sending more doctors for higher training abroad. During the year, 1950-51, all the District Board hospitals and the Civil Hospital, Abbottabad, were provincialised. The grades of probationer and 4th grade Compounders were abolished and all were up-graded to the 3rd grade. Two posts of Specialists were up-graded at the Lady Reading Hospital, Peshawar, to P. C. M.S. Class I, 14 posts of Male Assistant Medical Officers and 5 posts of Female Assistant Medical Officers were raised to P. C. M. S. Class II, 4 House Surgeons were appointed at the T.B. Sanatorium, Dadar, and a Drug Inspector and his establishment has been set up to enforce Drug Rules under the Drugs Act, 1940. A new dispensary for Bakot was sanctioned in Hazara District and a new dispensary has been built at Naryab in Kohat District. B. C. G. Clinic was also established at Peshawar and a campaign was started under the supervision of a Foreign Team in Peshawar and Mardan at a high scale involving a huge expenditure. The number of Travelling Dispensaries was increased from 2 to 6 and for the first time each District has got one. Three more Ambulance Cars were sanctioned with a view to provide each District headquarters hospital with one Ambulance. Scholarship of Rs. 50 p. m. each were sanctioned for many North-West Frontier Province students studying in the various Medical Schools and Colleges in Pakistan. To give more relief to the rural population 7 Assistant Medical Officers were posted to the following dispensaries which were previously run by Compounders:—

(1) Civil Hospital, Oghi.
(2) Civil Hospital, Lora.
(3) Civil Hospital, Garhi Habibullah.
(4) Civil Hospital, Balakot.
(5) Civil Hospital, Karak.
(6) Civil Hospital, Thall.
(7) Kurram Militia Hospital, Parachinar.

By the end of this year we will have added the following number of beds in our hospitals :—

(1) 20 at Dadar Sanatorium.
(2) 50 at the Abbottabad Hospital.
(3) 25 at Dera Ismail Khan Hospital.
(4) 40 at Kohat.
(5) 40 at Mardan for T. B. patients.
(6) 115 at the Lady Reading Hospital which includes two up-to-date Wards of 40 beds each and a T. B. Clinic for the treatment of tuberculosis.

The Operation Theatre in the Lady Reading Hospital, has been air-conditioned at a cost of Rs. 30,000. This is a brief picture of what has been achieved in the Province in the current financial year. We have a much more ambitious programme for the coming year which we hope to implement.

38. *Electricity*.—On the capital side the Budget includes a provision of Rs. 57,09,000 for the expansion of Malakand Hydro-Electric Scheme and installation of Thermo Plant at Tank, Rs. 56,39,000 for Dargai Scheme and Rs. 93,45,000 for Warsak Project.

39. In the last year's Speech I informed the House that since Partition the mileage covered by electricity had risen from 326 to 526. This has now risen to 683. The number of electricity consumers at present is 24,993 as against 9,830 at the time of Partition. Abbottabad, Baffa, Kotnajibullah, Havelian, Pandik, Talokar and Sikandarpur in the Hazara District, Shabkadar, Matta and Khairabad in the Peshawar District, Jahangira, Shahmansur, Zaida, Topi, Murghuz, Kalabat, Rustam and Kalu Khan in the Mardan District, Hangu in the Kohat District, Thana and Chakdara in Malakand Agency and Saidu Sharif in Swat State will be electrified completely before the close of 1950-51. The next year's budget provides for a further extension programme. The important places to be electrified next year are Kunda, Baja Bamkhel, Lahor, Surkh Dheri, Ismaila and Yar Hussain in Mardan District, Nahaqi, Babuzai, Todeh, Khazana, Larama, Sheikh Mohamadi, Masho Khel, Musazai and Surazai Payan in Peshawar District, Ustarzai Bala and Payan, Babribanda, Bilitang and Kharmatu in Kohat District and Serai Saleh, Berkund, Khaki, Sherpur, Malikpur, Gidarpur, Dudial, Shinkiari and Dadar in Hazara District.

40. With the extension of A. C. supply from the Malakand Hydro-Electric Scheme to Haripur the 5 oil engine generating sets of the Haripur Power House were rendered surplus. Two of these are being installed at Lakki Marwat in Bannu District and two at Tank in the Dera Ismail Khan District. The work at Lakki is expected to be completed during the current financial year while the work at Tank will be started early next year. The House will remember that in spite of the great difficulties in delivery from England the two generators of 5000 K. W. are being installed at Jabban Power House near Malakand. It is hoped that these generators will be in action very soon. With their installation we hope to have a surplus which we propose to turn over to our neighbouring Province of Punjab and for the use of the Central Government factories.

41. The electricity supply is expanding rapidly. It has not only afforded relief and comfort to the public but is at the same time proving a source of income to the Province. The House will be glad to know that the net income derived from the Malakand Hydro-Electric Scheme in 1946-47 and 1947-48 was Rs. 3,15,703 and Rs. 78,719, respectively, which with the expansions carried out subsequently and better management has now risen to Rs. 14,92,600.

42. Dargai and Warsak Hydro-Electric Schemes were started in 1948-49 at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,55,50,000 and Rs. 9,50,00,000, respectively. The expenditure on these schemes to the end of the year 1949-50 stood at Rs. 36,65,145 and Rs. 8,84,648. Anticipated expenditure during 1950-51 amounts to Rs. 76,57,989 and Rs. 9,63,723 and in 1951-52 to Rs. 56,38,988 and Rs. 93,44,612 respectively.

43. At Dargai the work is now in full swing and it is anticipated that the Scheme will be completed in 1952-53 making a further 20,000 K. W. of Electric power available for use in the Province and outside it. At Warsak necessary survey and investigation work is almost complete. Information has just been received that the Central Government are issuing authority for all auxiliary work other than the work on the actual dam to proceed. The decision regarding the dam and the power house will be made on receipt of a final report which the Consulting Engineers have promised to furnish by the end of June.

44. In the beginning of 1950-51 the Government Transport Service managed 44 daily services. On 1st February, 1951, 34 more were added. From 1st April, 1951, it is hoped that the Government Transport Service will be running 100 services. It is hoped that nationalization will greatly increase Government Transport Service income and will also provide the travelling public with a comfortable, regular and reliable service.

45. During the course of the year some very important legislation about Agrarian reforms and Agrarian debts was passed by this honourable House. We have started implementing that legislation. In consequence of our Redemption of Mortgaged Lands Act all mortgages of agricultural lands entered into before 1st January, 1920, will be treated as cancelled and paid up. In consequence of this legislation 3,71,396 acres of land will be freed from debt and the amount involved is Rs. 1,51,07,107. This measure will give great relief to the poorer section of our peasantry whose lands have been mortgaged and who were not in a position to redeem them. As regards agricultural reforms all those occupancy tenants who are paying nothing but land revenue have become owners without payment of any compensation. The number of such occupancy tenants is about 20,000 and the area involved is about 40,000 acres. Compensation was not considered necessary in their case because cesses and services have already been made illegal. Then there is a class of occupancy tenants who were paying cash rent. Their number is about 98,000 and the area involved is about 1,46,000 acres. It has been ordered in such cases that on payment of 10 years' cash rent they can become owners of land which they cultivate. The compensation is very moderate as in fixing the compensation land revenue has been excluded. It is hoped that this class of tenants will become owners within a very short time. Lastly we are left with the occupancy tenants who make payments in kind. The Provincial Government hope to announce the rate of compensation of these tenants very soon. These are far-reaching measures, when we take into account the conditions that prevailed when we initiated them. It is hoped that as a result of these reforms there will be a considerable increase in the number of small peasant proprietors and the bitterness between landlords and tenants will very largely disappear.

46. As I said in my last Speech the Government is fully aware of the fact that in several cases, mostly at the lower end, the existing scales of pay,

of Government servants are inadequate. The present financial resources, however, do not permit the undertaking of a general revision all at once and the policy of the Government has, therefore, been to introduce revision by instalments beginning from the ranks most adversely placed. Following this policy the Government raised the pay scales of Doctors and Veterinary Assistants in 1948-49, of Director of Animal Husbandry, P. W. D. Signallers, P. W. D. Store-keepers and Teachers in 1949-50 and of Curator, Peshawar Museum, P. W. D. Draftsmen, Public Works and Electricity Department Overseers, probationer male and female Compounders, Jail Warders, Jailors, Tehsildars and Naib Tehsildars, Agricultural Assistants, Director of Archives, Record Lifters and Daftries. Inspector and Auditor Stamps, Treasury Staff and Police Lower Subordinates in 1950-51. The next year's budget provides in addition for the raising of the pay scales of Executive and Assistant Engineers, Sub-Inspectors Consolidation of Holdings and Agricultural Kamdars. The number of persons who benefited by the revision was 75 in 1948-49, 3,573 in 1949-50, 10,565 in 1950-51 and 151 of those who will benefit in 1951-52. This gives a total of 14,364. The extra cost involved per annum works out to Rs. 25,654 in 1948-49, Rs. 492,962, in 1949-50, Rs. 8,74,488 in 1950-51 and Rs. 69,634 in 1951-52, or a total of Rs. 14,62,738. per annum. The Provincial Government is not unconscious ofthe fact that there are other categories of Government servants whose pay needs revision. The question of the increase in their pay is under the active consideration of the Provincial Government and in spite of all financial difficulties Provincial Government will try its best to give early relief to these people.

47. This in brief is the over-all picture of our finances and of what we have been able to achieve. We have made considerable progress in our efforts to make North-West Frontier Province a model province of Pakistan and in raising the standard of living of its people. Whatever measure of success we have been able to achieve is due to the political awakening of our people and the solid and unstinted support which they have always given to their Government. In addition to this, Provincial Government has been fortunate in the continued support which it has received not only from the Muslim League Assembly Party but, lately also, from the Opposition in all its nation-building activities. In these achievements our Services have played a very considerable part. With the departure of British Officers and other non-Muslim officers, Pakistanis had to step into the breach and took on duties which were difficult and of a complicated nature. Our Services have risen to the occasion and have given a very good account of themselves. I shall be failing in my duty if I do not mention the fact that in all our efforts we have received continuously both moral and material support from the Central Government in general and from our Prime Minister in particular. He understands our difficulties and the complicated nature of our problems and I can say with confidence that he has never failed us on any occasion whenever we approached him for assistance and help.

48. In conclusion I must record the Provincial Government's appreciation of the very useful services performed by the Financial Secretary, Sheikh Abdul Jalil, his Assistant and subordinates in looking after the finances of

the Province. The Provincial Government appreciates their efforts and the very hard work that they have put in.

49. I must conclude my Speech by striking an optimistic note. We have successfully weathered many storms and the difficult corners have been safely negotiated. If we all continue to work hard and co-operate, and if we do not forget the cardinal fact that our object is the good of our people and the raising of the standard of the common man, our efforts are bound to be crowned with success.

—:PAKISTAN ZINDABAD:—

ABDUL QAYUM,
Chief Minister,
North-West Frontier Province.